

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

Claim 1. (**WITHDRAWN - Currently Amended**): A method for processing bioresponse signals coming from organisms living in a well-defined living space, which are each comprised in a microenvironment, wherein ~~these~~ the bioresponse signals are obtained in online measuring of bioresponse variables, ~~and wherein these the bioresponse signals are being processed in~~ at least real-time ~~processed~~ in a signal processor, wherein, ~~on the one hand, these the~~ organisms are monitored in the said microenvironments, ~~and wherein, on the other hand, these the bioresponse~~ variables being ~~can be~~ adjusted by corresponding signal control apparatuses in accordance with a living space control model, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the living space comprises an incubator for hatching out hatching eggs, wherein the bioresponse variables are measured and controlled by at least one of in a physical and/or chemical manner, for instance in the form of optical, electrical, magnetic, acoustic or mechanical bioresponse signals, or combinations thereof.

Claim 2. (**WITHDRAWN - Currently Amended**): A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the bioresponse signals are non-invasively measured.

Claim 3. (**WITHDRAWN - Currently Amended**): A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the bioresponse signals for hatching eggs are chosen from at least one of , ~~for instance, but not exclusively,~~ eggshell temperature, weight loss, pulse, blood pressure, respiration, growth, growth rate, activity, heat production, moisture production, and sound production.

Claim 4. (**WITHDRAWN - Currently Amended**): A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~

the bioresponse signals for hatching eggs in the said microenvironments are chosen from at least one of , ~~for instance, but not exclusively~~, temperature, gas concentrations, sound intensity and sound frequency.

Claim 5. **(WITHDRAWN - Currently Amended)**: A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~

the living space control model comprises an intelligent control algorithm for a process control based on at least one of a ~~systematic or mathematical processing rule~~ , ~~for instance, but not exclusively~~, a so-called model-based control with prediction, ~~or~~ and a process control with so-called fuzzy logic.

Claim 6. **(WITHDRAWN - Currently Amended)**: A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~

the living space control model controls the hatching out according to directions obtained and determined after expertise.

Claim 7. **(WITHDRAWN - Currently Amended)**: A method for hatching out hatching eggs, including in particular ~~for~~ regulating the climate conditions in an incubator during the hatching process, including the setting, the measuring and the monitoring, as well as the adjusting of gas concentrations and climate parameters ~~such as~~ including at least one of air temperature, air humidity, carbonic acid content, and oxygen content, and further the measuring of egg temperatures of at least a number of hatching eggs, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the method successively comprises the following steps:

- entering a hatching egg target temperature T_{ep} into the control at the start of the hatching process;
- measuring the egg temperature T_e at a determined point in time after the start;
- comparing the measured T_e and T_{ep} , wherein, in the case of a difference between T_e and T_{ep} , an air temperature signal for adjusting the air temperature T_a according to an air temperature regulation is delivered; and

- repeating these steps during the hatching process at a determined next point in time.

Claim 8. **(WITHDRAWN - Currently Amended)**: A method according to claim 7, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the air temperature regulation for adjusting the air temperature Ta successively comprises the following steps:

- entering an air target temperature Tap into the control at the start of the hatching process, wherein, further, an air temperature control range A is entered between limit temperatures Tap(min) and Tap(max), with $\text{Tap}(\text{min}) < \text{Tap} < \text{Tap}(\text{max})$;
- measuring the air temperature Ta at a determined point in time after the start;
- comparing the measured Ta with the temperatures in A, wherein, in the case that Ta has increased or decreased by a predetermined difference, the air temperatures are adjusted according to a determined control scheme; and
- repeating these steps during the hatching process at a determined next point in time.

Claim 9. **(WITHDRAWN - Currently Amended)**: A method according to claim 8, wherein ~~characterized in that it is further comprised that~~, when the air temperature Ta exceeds one of the limit temperatures of A, an alarm signal is delivered.

Claim 10. **(WITHDRAWN - Currently Amended)**: A method according to claim 7, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the egg temperature is contactlessly measured.

Claim 11. **(WITHDRAWN - Currently Amended)**: A method according to claim 10, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the egg temperatures are measured with an apparatus for measuring, with infrared thermometers, temperatures of hatching eggs placed in nests of hatching trays which are arranged in an incubator, wherein, for a preselected number of trays, the temperature is measured of a predetermined number of eggs, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein during the hatching period, each individual thermometer contactlessly measures the temperature of a corresponding

individual egg according to a pre-entered measurement scheme, wherein the measuring signals obtained control a temperature control regulation.

Claim 12. (**Currently Amended**): An apparatus for measuring, with infrared thermometers, temperatures of hatching eggs placed in nests of hatching trays which are arranged in an incubator, wherein, for a preselected number of trays, the temperature is measured of a predetermined number of eggs, wherein characterized in that during the hatching period, each individual thermometer contactlessly measures the temperature of a corresponding individual egg according to a pre-entered measurement scheme, wherein the measuring signals obtained control a temperature control regulation.

Claim 13. (**Currently Amended**): An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein characterized in that the thermometers have been provided on holders which are placed on the hatching trays between the eggs, by means of which whereby the temperatures of at least two individual hatching eggs are measured.

Claim 14. (**Currently Amended**): An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein characterized in that the apparatus further comprises a robot to automatically position the holders near the hatching eggs.

Claim 15. (**Currently Amended**): An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein characterized in that the apparatus is used for carrying out a method for processing bioresponse signals coming from organisms living in a well-defined living space, which are each comprised in a microenvironment, wherein these the bioresponse signals are obtained in online measuring of bioresponse variables, and wherein these the bioresponse signals are being processed in at least real-time ~~processed~~ in a signal processor, wherein, ~~on the one hand, these the~~ organisms are monitored in the said microenvironments, ~~and wherein, on the other hand, these the bioresponse~~

variables being ~~can be~~ adjusted by corresponding signal control apparatuses in accordance with a living space control model, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the living space comprises an incubator for hatching out hatching eggs, wherein the bioresponse variables are measured and controlled by at least one of in a physical and/or chemical manner, for instance in the form of optical, electrical, magnetic, acoustic or mechanical bioresponse signals, or combinations thereof.

Claim 16. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the bioresponse signals are non-invasively measured.

Claim 17. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the bioresponse signals for hatching eggs are chosen from at least one of eggshell temperature, weight loss, pulse, blood pressure, respiration, growth, growth rate, activity, heat production, moisture production, and sound production.

Claim 18. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the bioresponse signals for hatching eggs in the said microenvironments are chosen from at least one of temperature, gas concentrations, sound intensity and sound frequency.

Claim 19. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the living space control model comprises an intelligent control algorithm for a process control based on at least one of a model-based control with prediction and a process control with fuzzy logic.

Claim 20. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the living space control model controls the hatching out according to directions obtained and determined after expertise.

Claim 21. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the climate conditions are regulated in an incubator during the hatching process, including the setting, the measuring and the monitoring, as well as the adjusting of gas concentrations and climate parameters including at least one of air temperature, air humidity, carbonic acid content, and oxygen content, and further the measuring of egg temperatures of at least a number of hatching eggs, wherein the method successively comprises the following steps:

- entering a hatching egg target temperature T_{ep} into the control at the start of the hatching process;
- measuring the egg temperature T_e at a determined point in time after the start;
- comparing the measured T_e and T_{ep} , wherein, in the case of a difference between T_e and T_{ep} , an air temperature signal for adjusting the air temperature T_a according to an air temperature regulation is delivered; and
- repeating these steps during the hatching process at a determined next point in time.

Claim 22. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the air temperature regulation for adjusting the air temperature T_a successively comprises the following steps:

- entering an air target temperature T_{ap} into the control at the start of the hatching process, wherein, further, an air temperature control range A is entered between limit temperatures $T_{ap}(\min)$ and $T_{ap}(\max)$, with $T_{ap}(\min) < T_{ap} < T_{ap}(\max)$;
- measuring the air temperature T_a at a determined point in time after the start;
- comparing the measured T_a with the temperatures in A, wherein, in the case that T_a has increased or decreased by a predetermined difference, the air temperatures are adjusted according to a determined control scheme; and
- repeating these steps during the hatching process at a determined next point in time.

Claim 23. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein when the air temperature T_a exceeds one of the limit temperatures of A, an alarm signal is delivered.

Claim 24. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the egg temperature is contactlessly measured.

Claim 25. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the egg temperatures are measured with an apparatus for measuring, with infrared thermometers, temperatures of hatching eggs placed in nests of hatching trays which are arranged in an incubator, wherein, for a

preselected number of trays, the temperature is measured of a predetermined number of eggs, wherein during the hatching period, each individual thermometer contactlessly measures the temperature of a corresponding individual egg according to a pre-entered measurement scheme, wherein the measuring signals obtained control a temperature control regulation.

Claim 26. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the apparatus comprises a holder part and a lid part, the holder part including a bottom provided with two plug-in units and a plug-in slot enabling clamping of the apparatus in at least one of compartments and nests.

Claim 27. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the infrared thermometers are calibrated for different hatching chambers.

Claim 28. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the predetermined number of eggs is four.

Claim 29. **(New)**: An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the infrared thermometers are arranged to measure the egg temperature at regular points in time.